

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A cervical intervertebral prosthesis, comprising two cover plates configured to be connected to adjacent vertebral bodies, a securing plate separate from and not connected to the cover plates which secures only one of the cover plates and is configured to be fastened to a ventral surface of the one of the vertebral bodies, and a prosthesis core which forms an articular joint with one of the cover plates.

2. (Previously Presented) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 1, wherein one of the cover plates is provided with a limit stop surface facing in a dorsal direction relative to the vertebral bodies.

3. (Previously Presented) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 1 or 2, wherein the securing plate is biodegradable.

4. (Currently Amended) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 1 or 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the securing plate is a circular disk.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to Claim 3, wherein the securing plate is a circular disk.

7. (Canceled)

8. (New) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the cover plates have abutment surfaces configured to lie against associated end plates of the vertebral bodies formed by transverse flanges on ventral edges of the cover plates relative to an implanted position.

9. (New) The cervical intervertebral prosthesis according to claim 3, wherein the cover plates have abutment surfaces configured to lie against associated end plates of the vertebral

bodies formed by transverse flanges on ventral edges of the cover plates relative to an implanted position.